Swifts Creek School Newsletter

May 9th 2012

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Whole School Dates to Remember
May 15th-17th NAPLAN
May 22nd School Photos
May 23rd Simultaneous Story Time
Jun 8th Pupil Free Day
Jun 11th Queens B’day Long Weekend
Jun 29th Last Day Term 2

Year 9 Evolve Students Return
Eleven Year 9 students have safely returned from their work’s residential at Typo Station in the King Valley, where they began the process of identifying their Evolve Project. A full report with pictures will appear in next month’s newsletter.

District Athletics
Our District Athletics carnival is on this Friday May 11th at Howitt Park. All students who are participating have received notes. There is a small bus running. Please return your money with your form by Thursday, if you are going on the bus. We will be leaving Swifts Creek Flagstaff campus at 8.15 Friday morning. If you have any questions please contact Mrs Grinter or Mr G.

SSV Golf Tournament
Congratulations to Richard Crabtree who represented our school (and our district), at the recent School Sport Victoria Gippsland Regional golf tournament held at Korumburra. Richard reported that he didn’t have the best day on the course, but enjoyed the day anyway. Well done Richard!

Tambo Campus Dates to Remember
May 23rd Driving Program Yr 11 & 12
May 30th-Jun 1st Outdoor Ed Bike Camp Melb
Jun 4th-7th Yrs 10 & 11 Exams
Jun 12th-15th Yr 12 Exams
Jun 17th-22nd Yr 9 Evolve expo
Jun 25th-26th Music Workshop Lakes Entrance
Jun 28th Gala Concert Lakes Entrance
Jun 25th-29th Yr 10 Work Experience

Flagstaff Campus Dates to Remember
May 11th Western District Aths Bairnsdale
May 25th Performance Tour at Omeo

Mothers Day Stall
Parents Group will be holding a Mothers Day Stall at the Flagstaff Campus for P-6 Students on Thursday 10th May. Please send money with your child on the day.

Outdoor Education
We have had a change in our planning, so our next excursion for Outdoor Ed is to the Buchan Caves for caving and abseiling on Friday May 18th. We will leave school at 11.00 and return at approximately 5.30. Students will need to ensure that they arrange pick up on this day. Please ensure that you return notes to the office promptly so that we can confirm numbers.

Susie & Wayne
**CHOIR**

Over the past two years, Swifts Creek School students have had the opportunity to be involved in choir. This has been available to students from both campuses and has been run under the watchful eye of Mrs Bev Cook. The focus for this has been to sing at the family carols at Swifts Creek and at the Carols by Candlelight at Dinner Plain. Our students on the 23rd of December last year, travelled with their families to Dinner Plain, to be part of what was a really wonderful night of music and entertainment. Our students sang a variety of non-traditional carols, as our focus for the music this year was from a multicultural perspective. Mrs Cook did a fantastic job researching and found carols from places like Canada, Jamaica and Poland. We were part of an all-star cast, which included Wilbur Wilde and Bruce Woodley from ‘The Seekers, along with the Wangaratta Pipe Band, a world renowned opera singer and some local talent. A fantastic night was had by all who attended. We would like to thank Mrs Cook for the time she spends ensuring that our students are presenting a top class act. We would also like to thank the sponsors at Dinner Plain who ensure that we have a bus to travel on and for inviting us each year, to be part of a really fantastic musical event. We have been invited back to this event again at the end of the year. We would love for our school to be part of this again. If you have an interest in singing and would like to be part of this, please consider joining. It is hard work, but the end results are really worth it! If you are interested please see Mrs Grinter, Mr G or Mrs Cook for more information.

**Student Leaders**

Last week’s newsletter featured a photo of some of our student leaders on the front page, as they were presented with certificates congratulating them on their election to leadership roles. The certificates were provided by Darren Chester, Member for Gippsland. We forgot to give you their names last week, so the photo is reproduced here.

Pictured receiving their certificates (from left to right) are: Rhiana Airs and Llewy Thomas, House Captains for Timbarra; Richard Crabtree and Rika Eringa, House Captains for Wentworth; Patrick Keating and Tess George, House Captains for Dargo; Ryan Ennis and Shannon Kennedy, Flagstaff campus student delegates. Congratulations to these students for being elected by their peers to these positions of responsibility.

**Independent Reading**

As your child becomes an independent reader, your reading at home routine will change. Reading together and sharing ideas about reading is still very important.

If your children share a bedroom, it is a good idea to have a shelf for each child. Precious treasures and favourite night time reading can be stored there.

Have a special place for books that your child can easily reach. This might be a basket or tub beside their favourite chair in the lounge room.
National Simultaneous Storytime 2012
Swifts Creek School Year Eight Students
Present.....

Wednesday 23rd May 2012 – 10.00 am
SWIFTS CREEK SCHOOL LIBRARY – TAMBO CAMPUS
Thursday 24th May 2012 – 10am
OMEO PRIMARY SCHOOL
Morning Tea Provided.
NEW BOOKS
@ Tambo Campus

THE INK BRIDGE – Neil Grant
Omed is a boy from Afghanistan. After making an enemy of the Taliban on the day the Buddhas of Bamiyan are destroyed, he undertakes a perilous journey to seek asylum in Australia. Omed meets Hec, an Australian boy, at a Melbourne candle factory which employs illegal immigrants and the boys form a tentative friendship. Readers learn that both boys cannot speak – Omed because he had his tongue cut out by the Taliban, and Hec because he’s still traumatised by the death of his mother. Secrets fester behind the monotonous routine of work at the factory: secrets with terrible consequences. And, ultimately, it is left to Hector to see how the story ends.

THREE SUMMERS – Judith Clarke
When best friends Ruth and Fee finish school, they each must make a choice. Ruth’s grandmother wants her to go to university and to see every marvellous place in the world. Fee wants to stay and be a mother. Judith Clarke tells this story in three parts, about Ruth and Fee, the mysterious and irresistible Tam Finn, and a troubled young girl called Dancey. From the author: ‘I’m attracted to the territory of adolescence, of growing up, because so many of the joys and tragedies of later life have their beginnings there. Our adult lives are moulded by our experiences in childhood and adolescence, by decisions made before we are even aware of making them, before we have an adult understanding of the world, and it seems important to me to write about this.’

ONE LONG THREAD – Belinda Jeffrey
Ruby must navigate many trials in her life as she slowly develops and understands her identity, despite her family’s shattered past. Ruby’s mother is lured into a religious cult and subsequently leaves. Ruby’s twin sister Sally is sent to live in Darwin with their mother, while Ruby stays in Melbourne with her father. While Ruby battles to find herself without Sally in her life, she receives the tragic news that Sally is in a coma. To rebuild her life, Ruby slowly searches her family’s past and with a little help from the people in her life, pursues her own dreams of becoming a fashion designer.

THE WRONG BOY – Suzy Zail
Hanna Mendel liked to know what was going to happen next. But she didn’t plan on her street being turned into a ghetto. She didn’t plan on being rounded up and thrown in a cattle truck. She didn’t plan on spending her sixteenth birthday in Auschwitz, in a wooden barrack with 200 other prisoners. Most of all, Hanna didn’t plan on falling in love with the wrong boy. Suzy Zail explores resonant themes such as loyalty, betrayal, survival and appearance versus reality. The narrative dismantles crude stereotypes of ‘villains’ and ‘victims’, instead putting a human face to those who were affected by the Holocaust.

THE SHINY GUYS – Doug MacLeod
Colin’s family has not been the same since his sister Briony disappeared, so no-one is too surprised when Colin attempts to kill himself and ends up in Ward 44. Dr Parkinson runs a tight ship and it’s all meant to help Colin get better. Then how come Colín is seeing giant talking cockroaches? And why are they taking him to a distant world called Nestor? Colin is on a mission. Will it help him to remember what happened to Briony or is it going to push him over the edge? The Shiny Guys is a modern Kafka or Poe, a love story and a story of friendship, spiked with just the right amount of modern humour.